



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4
SAM NUNN ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

October 12, 2021

Reverend Derrick M. Hammond
Oak Valley Baptist Church
194 Hampton Road
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830

Dear Reverend Hammond:

Thank you for your September 24, 2021, letter concerning progress towards approval of the Department of Energy's (DOE) Environmental Management Disposal Facility (EMDF) to be located in Central Bear Creek Valley on the DOE Oak Ridge Reservation, Oak Ridge, Tennessee. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is working with the DOE and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) to ensure the proposed EMDF will be protective of human health and the environment.

The EPA agrees that waste disposal capacity is important to the cleanup mission at the Oak Ridge Reservation. The EPA is working closely with DOE to accelerate the decision while safeguarding human health and the environment, and ensuring the public has an opportunity to engage in and provide input on the cleanup decisions at the site. New information has been developed since the original Proposed Plan for the EMDF was issued to the public in September 2018. Consistent with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) and the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP), the public will have an opportunity to be informed of and comment on the new information. Public comment on the proposed EMDF will be considered before the EPA, TDEC and DOE finalize the Record of Decision.

The EPA is committed to working with the DOE in a timely manner and maintaining the pace of the Oak Ridge Reservation cleanup mission. The EPA agrees that substantial environmental work has been accomplished at the Oak Ridge Reservation and remains committed to ensuring that the cleanup work continues through our partnering with DOE and TDEC to protect human health and the environment in the Oak Ridge community.

We appreciate your desire to accelerate progress on the construction and operation of the DOE EMDF landfill. If we may be of further assistance, please contact Mr. Glenn Adams, of my senior staff, by telephone at 404-562-8771 or email at adams.glenn@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

RANDALL CHAFFINS
Digitally signed by RANDALL CHAFFINS
Date: 2021.10.12 08:43:44 -04'00'

Ramon Torres, Acting Director
Superfund & Emergency Management Division